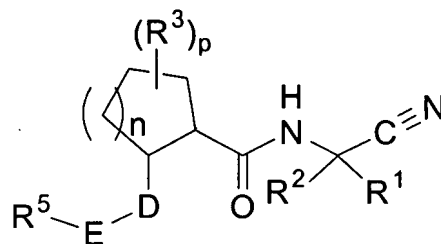


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of the following formula:



wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, $-SR^6$, $-SR^7$, $-SOR^6$, $-SOR^7$, $-SO_2R^6$, $-SO_2R^7$, $-SO_2CH(R^7)(R^9)$, $-OR^7$, $-OR^6$, $-N(R^7)_2$, one to six halo, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycyl wherein said aryl, heteroaryl and heterocycyl groups are optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, halo, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, alkoxy and keto;

R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, $-SR^6$, $-SR^7$, $-SOR^6$, $-SOR^7$, $-SO_2R^6$, $-SO_2R^7$, $-SO_2CH(R^7)(R^9)$, $-OR^7$, $-OR^6$, $-N(R^7)_2$, one to six halo, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycyl wherein said aryl, heteroaryl and heterocycyl groups are optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, halo, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, alkoxy or keto; or

R^1 and R^2 can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl or heterocycyl ring wherein said ring system is optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl and halo;

each R^3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo and C_{1-2} alkyl wherein said alkyl group is optionally substituted with halo; or two R^3 groups can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a C_{3-4} cycloalkyl ring, wherein said group is optionally substituted with halo;

D is ~~C₁₋₃ alkyl, C₂₋₃ alkenyl, C₂₋₃ alkynyl~~, aryl, ~~or heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or heterocycyl~~

wherein each said aryl, ~~or heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocycyl~~ groups, which may be monocyclic or bicyclic, is optionally substituted on either the carbon or the heteroatom with one to five substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl, haloalkyl, halo, keto, alkoxy, -SR⁶, -SR⁷, -OR⁶, -OR⁷, N(R⁷)₂, -SO₂R⁶ and -SO₂R⁸;

E is ~~C₂₋₃ alkenyl, C₂₋₃ alkynyl~~, aryl, ~~heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or heterocycyl~~ wherein each said

aryl, ~~heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocycyl~~ groups, which may be monocyclic or bicyclic, is

optionally substituted on either the carbon or the heteroatom with one to five substituents

independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl, haloalkyl, halo, keto, alkoxy, -SR⁶, -SR⁷, -OR⁶, -OR⁷, N(R⁷)₂, -SO₂R⁶ and -SO₂R⁸;

R⁵ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, C₂₋₆ alkynyl, C₁₋₆ alkyloxy, halo, nitro, cyano, aryl, heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, -C(O)OR⁸, -C(O)OSi[CH(CH₃)₂]₃, -OR⁶, -OR⁸, -C(O)R⁸, -R⁸C(O)R⁶, -C(O)R⁶, -C(O)N(R^a)(R^b), -C(O)N(R⁷)(R⁷), -C(O)N(R⁸)(R⁹), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)OH, -SO_mR⁷, -SO_mR⁶, -R⁸SR⁶, -R⁶, -C(R⁶)₃, -C(R⁸)(R⁹)N(R⁶)₂, -NR⁸C(O)NR⁸S(O)₂R⁶, -SO_mN(R^c)(R^d), -SO_mCH(R⁸)(R⁹), -SO_m(C₁₋₆alkyl)C(O)(C₀₋₆alkyl)NR¹⁰, -SO_m(C₁₋₆alkyl)N(R¹⁰)₂, -SO_m(C₁₋₆alkyl)R¹⁰; -SO_m(C₃₋₈cycloalkyl)R¹⁰; -SO₂N(R⁸)C(O)(R⁷), -SO₂(R⁸)C(O)N(R⁷)₂, -OSO₂R⁸, -N(R⁸)(R⁹), -N(R⁸)C(O)N(R⁸)(R⁶), -N(R⁸)C(O)R⁶, -N(R⁸)C(O)R⁸, -N(R⁸)C(O)OR⁸, -N(R⁸)SO₂(R⁸), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)NR⁸C(R⁸)(R⁹)R⁶, -C(R⁸)(R⁹)N(R⁸)R⁶, -C(R⁸)(R⁹)N(R⁸)(R⁹), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)SC(R⁸)(R⁹)(R⁶), R⁸S-, -C(R^a)(R^b)N^aC(R^a)(R^b)(R⁶), -C(R^a)(R^b)N(R^a)(R^b), -C(R^a)(R^b)C(R^a)(R^b)N(R^a)(R^b), -C(O)C(R^a)(R^b)N(R^a)(R^b), -C(R^a)(R^b)N(R^a)C(O)R⁶, -C(O)C(R^a)(R^b)S(R^a), C(R^a)(R^b)C(O)N(R^a)(R^b), -B(OH)₂, -OCH₂O- or 4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl; wherein said groups are optionally substituted on either the carbon or the heteroatom with one to five substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl, halo, keto, cyano, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, -OR⁶, -OR⁷, -NO₂, -NH₂, -NHS(O)₂R⁸, -R⁶SO₂R⁷, -SO₂R⁷, -SO(R⁷), -SR⁷, -SR⁶, -SO_mN(R^c)(R^d), -SO_mN(R⁸)C(O)(R⁷), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)N(R⁸)(R⁹), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)OH, -COOH, -C(O)(O)(R⁷), -C(O)(O)C(R⁷)₃, -C(R^a)(R^b)C(O)N(R^a)(R^b), -C(O)(R^a), -N(R⁸)C(R⁸)(R⁹)(R⁶), -N(R⁸)CO(R⁶), -NH(CH₂)₂OH, -NHC(O)OR⁸, -Si(CH₃)₃, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁₋₄alkyl)heteroaryl and (C₁₋₄alkyl)aryl;

R⁶ is hydrogen, aryl, aryl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₄alkyl)aryl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₄alkyl)heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, or heterocyclyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl wherein said groups can be optionally substituted with one, two, or three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, alkoxy and -SO₂R⁷;

R⁷ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one, two, or three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, alkoxy, cyano, -N(R⁸)(R⁹) and -SR⁸;

R⁸ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl

R⁹ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

R¹⁰ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, cyano, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, SO_mheteroaryl, (C=N)O(C₁₋₆alkyl) or (C₁₋₆alkyl)NH(SO_m)heteroaryl;

R^a is hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, (C₁₋₆ alkyl)aryl, (C₁₋₆ alkyl)hydroxyl, -O(C₁₋₆ alkyl), hydroxyl, halo, aryl, heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or heterocyclyl, wherein said alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl can be optionally substituted on either the carbon or the heteroatom with one, two, or three substituents independently selected from C₁₋₆ alkyl or halo;

R^b is hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, (C₁₋₆ alkyl)aryl, (C₁₋₆ alkyl)hydroxyl, alkoxy, hydroxyl, halo, aryl, heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or heterocyclyl, wherein said alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl can be optionally substituted on either the carbon or the heteroatom with one, two, or three substituents independently selected from group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl and halo; or

R^a and R^b can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached or are between them to form a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl ring or C₃₋₈ heterocycl ring wherein said 3-8 membered ring system may be optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from C₁₋₆ alkyl and halo;

R^c is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one, two, or three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and -OR⁶;

R^d is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one, two, or three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and -OR⁶; or

R^c and R^d can be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached or are between them to form a C₃₋₈ heterocycl ring which is optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl, halo hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, alkoxy and keto;

n is ~~two~~ an integer from one to three;

m is an integer from zero to two;

p is an integer from one to three;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts; or stereoisomers ~~or N-oxide derivatives~~ thereof.

2. Cancelled.

3. (Original) The compound of Claim 2 wherein D is aryl or heteroaryl and E is aryl or heteroaryl.

4. (Original) The compound of Claim 2 wherein each R³ is independently selected from hydrogen or halo.

5. (Original) The compound of Claim 3 wherein R⁵ is -SO_mR⁷, -SO_mR⁶, -R⁸SR⁶, SO_mN(R^c)(R^d), -SO_mCH(R⁸)(R⁹), -SO_m(C₁₋₆alkyl)C(O)(C₀₋₆alkyl)NR¹⁰, -SO_m(C₁₋₆alkyl)N(R¹⁰)₂, -SO_m(C₁₋₆alkyl)R¹⁰; -SO_m(C₃₋₈cycloalkyl)R¹⁰; -SO₂N(R⁸)C(O)(R⁷) or -SO₂(R⁸)C(O)N(R⁷)₂; wherein said groups are optionally substituted on either the carbon or the heteroatom with one to five substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl, halo, keto, cyano, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, -OR⁶, -OR⁷, -NO₂, -NH₂, -NHS(O)₂R⁸, -R⁶SO₂R⁷, -SO₂R⁷, -SO(R⁷), -SR⁷, -SR⁶, -SO_mN(R^c)(R^d), -SO_mN(R⁸)C(O)(R⁷), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)N(R⁸)(R⁹), -C(R⁸)(R⁹)OH, -COOH, -C(O)(O)(R⁷), -C(O)(O)C(R⁷)₃, -C(R^a)(R^b)C(O)N(R^a)(R^b), -C(O)(R^a), -N(R⁸)C(R⁸)(R⁹)(R⁶), -N(R⁸)CO(R⁶), -NH(CH₂)₂OH, -NHC(O)OR⁸, -Si(CH₃)₃, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁₋₄alkyl)heteroaryl and (C₁₋₄alkyl)aryl.

6. (Original) The compound of Claim 5 wherein R¹ is hydrogen, R² is hydrogen, or R¹ and R² can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl ring wherein said ring system is optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, or halo.

7. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 1 selected from:

~~2-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl] cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(1-cyanocyclopropyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl] cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-[4'-(benzyloxy)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-hydroxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(methylsulfonyl)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl) cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-vinyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-cyclopropyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[5-(methylsulfonyl)-4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]
cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(1-cyanocyclopropyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[5-(methylsulfonyl)-4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]
cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-{4'-[(fluoromethyl)thio]-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl} cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-ethyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-propyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(3'-isopropyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-isopropyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(4'-tert-butyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[3'-(trifluoromethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(3'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(4'-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(3'-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[3'-(hydroxymethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2'-(2-[[[(cyanomethyl)amino]carbonyl]cyclohexyl]-1,1'-biphenyl-3-carboxylic acid;

2'-(2-[[[(cyanomethyl)amino]carbonyl]cyclohexyl]-1,1'-biphenyl-4-carboxylic acid;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(3'-methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2'-ethoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-ethoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(3'-isopropoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-isopropoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-phenoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(trifluoromethoxy)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl] cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[2'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[3'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(ethylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(3'-amino-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(dimethylamino)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(3'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-[3'-(acetylamino)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-isobutyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2-pyridin-4-ylphenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2-quinolin-8-ylphenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[2-(2-methoxypyrimidin-5-yl)phenyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2-pyridin-3-ylphenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2-thien-3-ylphenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(4'-acetyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(1,1':2',1''-terphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(4'-cyano-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-(3'-cyano-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

~~6-(3-bromophenyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carboxamide;~~

~~2-(3-bromophenyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

tert-butyl 4-[3'-(2-{{[(cyanomethyl)amino]carbonyl}cyclohexyl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl] piperazine-1-carboxylate;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-piperazin-1-yl-1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

~~2-(3-bromophenyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)-4-methylecyclopentanecarboxamide;~~

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(4'-methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(methylsulfonyl)-1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(5-phenyl-1,3-oxazol-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(5-phenyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(5-phenyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

~~2-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-phenylcyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-dichloro-2-[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{1-methyl-3-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-1H-pyrazol-4-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

~~6-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)spiro[2.5]octane-5-carboxamide;~~

~~2-(3-bromo-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

N-(cyanomethyl)-6-[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl]spiro[2.5]octane-5-carboxamide;

~~2-(2-bromophenyl)-5,5-dichloro-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-(3-bromo-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-5,5-dichloro-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-((Z)-2-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]ethenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-{2-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]ethyl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-((Z)-2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-{2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethyl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-((Z)-2-[4-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]phenyl]ethenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-((E)-2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethenyl)-cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(2-{4-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]phenyl}ethyl)-cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-ethynylcyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[[4-(methylthio)phenyl]ethynyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethynyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-({4-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]phenyl}ethynyl)-cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-(phenylethynyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-[(4-bromophenyl)ethynyl]-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-(1,1'-biphenyl-4-ylethynyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[[4'-(methylthio)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl]ethynyl]-cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[(3-fluorophenyl)ethynyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-[(3-chlorophenyl)ethynyl]-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[(4-pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]ethynyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-[(3-bromophenyl)ethynyl]-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-(1,1'-biphenyl-3-ylethynyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-[(2-bromophenyl)ethynyl]-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~2-(1,1'-biphenyl-2-ylethynyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[[4-(6-methoxypyridin-2-yl)thien-3-yl]ethynyl]-cyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

~~N-(cyanomethyl)-2-{4'-[(cyanomethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;~~

2-{4'-[(2-amino-2-oxoethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-2-[4'-({2-[(cyanomethyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}thio)biphenyl-2-yl]-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(2-pyridin-2-ylethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-{4'-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-{4'-[(1H-benzimidazol-6-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(1H-imidazol-4-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(1H-imidazol-2-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[4'-({1-(1H-imidazol-2-ylmethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl}methyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[{2-(1H-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl}thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-{[2-(1H-imidazol-2-yl)ethyl]thio}biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-{[(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)methyl]thio}biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-{[2-(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)ethyl]thio}biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[2'-fluoro-4'-(methylthio)biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-{[(5-phenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)methyl]thio}biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(2-pyridin-4-ylethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[4'-{(2-[(pyridin-2-ylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl)thio}biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-{[2-((pyridin-2-ylsulfonyl){2-[(pyridin-2-ylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl}amino)ethyl]thio}biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-{4'-[(1H-tetrazol-5-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-{4'-[(1-cyanocyclopropyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

methyl 1-{[2'-(2-{[(cyanomethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)biphenyl-4-yl]thio}cyclopropanecarboximidoate;

2-(4'-{[2-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)ethyl]thio}biphenyl-2-yl)-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

2-{4'-[(1H-benzimidazol-7-ylmethyl)thio]biphenyl-2-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluorocyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-[4'-({2-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl}thio)biphenyl-2-yl]cyclohexanecarboxamide; and

N-(cyanomethyl)-5,5-difluoro-2-(4'-{2-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl}biphenyl-2-yl)cyclohexanecarboxamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

8. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. Withdrawn.

10. Cancelled.

11. Withdrawn.